

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An electrode comprising a conductive material having a plurality of pores(.) wherein said pores are tapered having a first pore opening smaller in size than a second pore opening, said electrode having a pore size distribution wherein at least 90% of the total pore volume is in pores of diameter from about 10% below the size of the mode pore diameter to about 10% above the size of the mode pore diameter.
2. (Currently Amended) The electrode of claim (10) 1, wherein said pore sizes are in the range of about 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 10 $\mu\text{m}$  as measured by scanning electron microscopy
3. (Currently Amended) The electrode of claim (10) 1, ~~wherein said pores are tapered having a first pore opening and a second pore opening~~, wherein said first pore opening is up to about a factor of 10 smaller in size than said second pore opening, wherein said pore openings are measured by scanning electron microscopy
4. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell comprising at least one electrode comprising a conductive material having a plurality of pores(.) wherein said pores are tapered having a first pore opening smaller in size than a second pore opening, said electrode having a pore size distribution wherein at least 90% of the total pore volume is in pores of diameter from about 10% below the size of the mode pore diameter to about 10% above the size of the mode pore diameter.
5. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell of claim (13) 4, ~~wherein said pores are tapered having a first pore opening smaller in size than a second pore opening~~, wherein said first pore opening is up to about a factor of 10 smaller in size than said second pore opening, wherein said pore openings are measured by scanning electron microscopy.
6. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell of claim (13) 4, wherein the pore sizes are in the range of about 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 10 $\mu\text{m}$  as measured by scanning electron microscopy

7. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell stack comprising at least one fuel cell having at least one electrode comprising a conductive material having a plurality of pores (,) wherein said pores are tapered having a first pore opening smaller in size than a second pore opening, said electrode having a pore size distribution wherein at least 90% of the total pore volume is in pores of diameter from about 10% below the size of the mode pore diameter to about 10% above the size of the mode pore diameter.

8. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell stack of claim (16) 7, ~~wherein said pores are tapered having a first pore opening and a second pore opening~~, wherein said first pore opening is up to about a factor of 10 smaller in size than said second pore opening, wherein said pore openings are measured by scanning electron microscopy.

9. (Currently Amended) The fuel cell stack of claim(16) 7, wherein the pore sizes are in the range of about 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  to about 10 $\mu\text{m}$  as measured by scanning electron microscopy